

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 4th November 1899.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
BENGALI.					
Weekly.					
1	"Anussandhan" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	31st October 1899.	
2	"Bangabhum" ...	Ditto ...	.....	28th Oct. & 4th Nov. 1899.	
3	"Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	25,000		
4	"Basumati" ...	Ditto ...	15,000		
5	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto ...	About 6,000	2nd November 1899.	
6	"Mihir-o-Sudhakar" ...	Ditto ...	2,500	27th October 1899.	
7	"Prativasi" ...	Ditto ...	3,600	30th ditto.	
8	"Samay" ...	Ditto ...	3,000		
9	"Samiran" ...	Ditto ...	.....	3rd November 1899.	
10	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	3,000		
11	"Som Prakash" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	30th October 1899.	
12	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika."	Ditto ...	.....	
Daily.					
1	"Dainik Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	.....	30th & 31st October & 1st November 1899.	
2	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto ...	2,000		
3	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300		
HINDI.					
Weekly.					
1	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	2,000	30th October 1899.	
2	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	30th ditto.	
PERSIAN.					
Weekly.					
1	"Hablul Mateen" ...	Calcutta ...	800		
2	"Mefta-hur-zafar" ...	Ditto ...	.....	
URDU.					
Weekly.					
1	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide."	Calcutta ...	300	26th ditto.	
2	"General and Gauhariasfi" ...	Ditto ...	330		
BENGALI.					
Weekly.					
1	"Bangabandhu" ...	Chandernagore ...	.....	28th ditto.	
2	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	600		
3	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	235	1st November 1899.	
4	"Chinsura Vartavaha" ...	Chinsura ...	510		
5	"Education Gasette" ...	Hooghly ...	1,350	27th Oct. & 3rd Nov. 1899.	
6	"Medini Bandhav" ...	Midnapore ...	.....	30th October 1899.	
7	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna ...	.....	
BENGALI.					
Monthly.					
1	"Sevika" ...	Diamond Harbour ...	.....	
Fortnightly.					
1	"Hitakari" ...	Kushtia ...	.....	16th & 31st August 1899.	
Weekly.					
1	"Basirhat Suhrid" ...	Basirhat ...	.....	28th October 1899.	
2	"Murshidabad Hitaishi" ...	Berhampore, Murshidabad.	600		
3	"Pratihar" ...	Ditto ...	603		

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS—concluded.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
	URIYA. <i>Weekly.</i>	ORISSA DIVISION.			
1	"Sambalpur Hitaishini" ...	Bamra, in the Central Provinces.	500	27th September 1899.	
2	"Samvad Vahika" ...	Balasore ...	150	28th ditto.	
3	"Uriya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...	376	4th October 1899.	
4	"Utkal Dipika" ...	Cuttack ...	400	7th ditto.	
	HINDI. <i>Monthly.</i>	PATNA DIVISION.			
1	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	About 600		
	URDU. <i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	500	20th ditto.	
	BENGALI. <i>Weekly.</i>	CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.			
1	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia ...	.....	
	BENGALI. <i>Weekly.</i>	RAJSHAHI DIVISION.			
1	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	300		
2	"Kangal" ...	Cooch Behar ...	300		
	HINDI. <i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	.....	
	BENGALI. <i>Fortnightly.</i>	DACCA DIVISION.			
1	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur ...	750		
2	"Kasipur Nivasi" ...	Kasipur, Barisal ...	300		
3	"Sikshak Suhrid" ...	Dacca ...	.....	
	<i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Barisal Hitaishi" ...	Barisal ...	400		
2	"Charu Mihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	1,011		
3	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca ...	2,400		
4	"Sanjay" ...	Faridpur ...	.....	
5	"Saraswat Patra" ...	Dacca ...	500		
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI. <i>Weekly.</i>				
1	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	500		
	BENGALI. <i>Weekly.</i>	CHITTAGONG DIVISION.			
1	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	120		
2	"Tripura Hitaishi" ...	Comilla ...	550		
	BENGALI. <i>Fortnightly.</i>	ASSAM.			
1	"Paridarsak" ...	Sylhet		
2	"Silchar" ...	Silchar, Cachar ...	375		

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II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

Referring to the decision of Mr. Pennell, in case of Norsing, in the district of Chapra, the *Prativasi* of the 30th October writes as follows:—

PRATIVASI,
Oct. 30th, 1899.

The transfer of Mr. Pennell to Noakhali.

It is befitting a just, truthful, and conscientious man like Mr. Pennell, that he has commented strongly on the conduct of the Magistrate, the Commissioner, and the Deputy Magistrate, Maulvi Zakir Hossain, in the above case. When the appeal was filed, the Commissioner tried to influence the District Judge by writing to him about the case. But his sense of duty and justice made Mr. Pennell overcome race partiality. In reviewing the Maulvi's decision, he has shown that the Deputy Magistrate has ignored truth and committed injustice in order to please his superiors, and has justified his existence as a Deputy Magistrate by slavishly obeying their mandate. We should know nothing about this injustice and oppression by public officers, if there were no judge like Mr. Pennell at Chapra. But for him, innocent Norsing would have certainly been imprisoned. The Indians are grateful to Mr. Pennell for this just decision. He even ran the risk of being looked upon as a traitor to his race, by upholding the cause of truth. The result of this is that he has been transferred to an inferior district, namely, the district of Noakhali. Will the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor do nothing after hearing that Mr. Corbett, Mr. Bradley, the Magistrate, and the Commissioner encouraged such injustice and oppression? Will not His Honour find his way to protect the innocent people against injustice and oppression committed by those who are entrusted with the good government of the country and the preservation of peace? Will the Lieutenant-Governor pass over the fact that Mr. Pennell finds himself humiliated by reason of his attempting to uphold the cause of justice and wipe out the stain on the English name?

(c)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

2. The *Hitakari* of the 16th August writes as follows:—

HITAKARI,
Aug. 16th, 1899.

Complaints against the Kumarkhali Municipality.

The present condition of the roads in the Kumarkhali Municipality is deplorable. The houses of the residents are surrounded with jungle. With one or two exceptions, most of the roads are so covered with jungle, that they are almost impassable even at day-time. The roads are also in such a condition that people cannot walk along them with shoes on. The drainage also is defective. The water in the houses cannot pass out. The rate-payers have already begun to feel the inevitable consequence of such a state of things. Fever, cough, and diarrhoea are raging furiously among them. There is not a house which is free from these ailments. There are houses in which the whole family is laid up, there being no one to look after them. The Municipal Commissioners are quite indifferent, and do nothing to remedy this state of things. The Divisional Commissioner, in reviewing the working of this Municipality, says in his Administration Report that the Chairman does what he likes and the Vice-Chairman is a worthless man. But he has done nothing to protect the rate-payers from such despotism.

The latrine system is in force in the Municipality. According to rule, the mehters should, after cleaning the privies every day, deposit their contents in the trenching-ground. But they do not always do so, and deposit night-soil wherever they choose. It is easy to imagine how the health of the rate-payers suffers on account of these irregularities of the mehters.

(h)—General.

3. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 26th October says that the Government of India, by a circular order dated the 20th October, has cancelled its former order by which pilgrimage to the Hedjaz was generally permitted, subject to the quarantine rules. Under the new order, intending pilgrims residing in the plague-stricken districts of India will not be permitted to visit Mecca in the next

The new Hedjaz orders.

DARUSSALTANAT
AND URDU GUIDE,
Oct. 26th, 1899.

season. Of course, the Government has excluded the infected area in view of the danger of plague being carried to Europe. The order, however, will prevent those from performing a bounden duty, who, on account of the prohibition, must defer their visit to Mecca until another season, and may in the meantime die. Pilgrimage to the Hedjaz ought to be generally permitted subject to some stringent sanitary precautions.

BANGAVASI,
Oct. 28th, 1899.

4. The *Bangavasi* of the 28th October has the following:—

Lord Curzon on the Rangoon case and his highmindedness.

Highmindedness like that of Lord Curzon is rare in these days. His intelligence, his judgment, his experience are as great as his sympathy, his kindness and his generosity. Since his arrival in India Lord Curzon is giving proofs of highmindedness and large-heartedness in all his acts. India is in great distress, and disaster after disaster has overtaken her. Plague and famine, flood and cyclone—the country has had to face a series of disasters. Cyclone and flood are not preventible disasters, but famine and plague are. Lord Curzon is trying his best to relieve the distress of the people by adopting the preventive as well as the curative method. He has sympathised with the distressed in Bhagalpur as feelingly as he sympathised with the distressed in Darjeeling. Lord Curzon wants to see the condition of the people with his own eyes, and he is going to visit the plague-stricken parts of the country. He has got himself inoculated, and his suite have followed his example. The Viceroy will see with his own eyes whether there is any plague oppression, and if he comes across any instances of oppression, he will no doubt take steps to put them down. He will warn Provincial Governors and guide all officials. Famine has broken out in many parts of the country and is gradually assuming a serious form. Lord Curzon, like Lord Northbrook, has delighted the public with the assurance that effective measures to relieve the distressed people would be adopted. Even the disappointed are inspired with hope, even the lifeless feel re-animated. Just as even a hopeless patient looks up on the arrival of an efficient physician, so even starving people will be animated with hope to see their ruler in their midst. “The Viceroy is coming, the Governor-General is coming to see the condition of the people with his own eyes”—when this news, this happy news will be circulated among the distressed people, even their faces will beam with joy and enthusiasm, in the same way as dark and dismal nights are lit up with lightning flashes. Lord Curzon has disregarded the dissuasion of his advisers and is giving proofs of highmindedness.

It is difficult to prevent natural disasters, but it is not so difficult to prevent the oppression of natives by Europeans. Lord Curzon is displeased and annoyed because there is this oppression. Notwithstanding the opinion of the Home authorities to the contrary, His Lordship is convinced that such cruel and fiendish oppression exists. We, too, who expect kind and considerate treatment at the hands of the European soldiers, are extremely pained to find them misconducting themselves.

Oppression of natives by European soldiers is taking place here, there, and everywhere, and this oppression is increasing on account of the acquittal of soldiers charged with the commission of such oppression. In Rangoon, European soldiers outraged the chastity of a native woman in broad daylight. The first trial of the accused ended in smoke, owing to the indifference of the police. The second trial also ended in smoke. The case was, at first, about to be hushed up, owing to the negligence and apathy displayed in responsible quarters. It was by the order of the Viceroy that a retrial of the accused was held, but the mistake which was committed in the first instance could not be easily rectified. The second trial also ended in a complete failure. This has sorely disappointed the Viceroy, but what can he do? Not even the Queen can interfere with the decision of a law court. Lord Curzon is helpless in that direction, but he has done all that he could do to remedy the evil. He has dismissed all the offending soldiers and has strongly condemned the conduct of the officers of the regiment. They, too, will be taught a lesson. It is hoped that the lesson taught to one regiment will act as a deterrent to the other regiments. Lord Curzon's strong expression of opinion in his resolution on the Rangoon case will, let us hope, not go in vain. Let us hope that it will have the desired effect. Let us hope that neither soldiers nor officers will be again

guilty of cruel and fiendish oppression. But where appeal and admonition will fail, punishment will be necessary, and Lord Curzon will no doubt take steps to ensure the punishment of offending soldiers.

URIYA PAPERS.

5. The *Samvadvaika* of the 28th September is of opinion that the paddy crop in Balasore and Cuttack is hopeful, but nothing can be said definitely so long as the crop is not harvested. The paddy crop has failed in the Puri district.

Crop prospects in the Cuttack, Balasore and Puri districts.

SAMVADVAIKA,
Sept. 28th, 1899.
6. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* of the 4th October points out certain defects in the working of the Lodging-House Act at Puri, and observes that, unless the Act is given effect to properly, many will refuse to apply for passes, and pilgrims will find no houses to live in. The writer is disgusted to learn that inspecting officers instead of counting the inmates of lodging-houses in day-time choose midnight for this purpose, and thereby disturb the pilgrims in their midnight slumbers—a procedure which is highly objectionable both on sanitary and moral grounds.

The working of the Lodging-House Act and the inspection of lodging-houses in Puri.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Oct. 4th, 1899.
7. The *Utkaldipika* of the 7th October is sorry to notice instances of distress among the poor people, and cites examples to show that many are moving about in the Cuttack town in quest of food.

Distress in Orissa.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Oct. 7th, 1899.
8. The same paper regrets to state that a virulent type of cholera is raging in the Cuttack town, and is carrying off ten souls every day.

Virulent cholera in Cuttack town.

UTKALDIPIKA.
9. The same paper observes that by passing the Calcutta Municipal Bill the Government have adopted a policy, which is clearly detrimental to the interests of local self-government in India, and this is to be deeply regretted on more grounds than one.

Government's policy in passing the Calcutta Municipal Bill.

UTKALDIPIKA.
10. Referring to the last *Rath Jatra* festival at Puri, the same paper points out that, in view of the presence of a large number of pilgrims in that town, latrine, bathing, and drinking-water arrangements were most defective, and the local authorities were entirely to blame for their errors of commission and omission. The writer warns the authorities to take note of the fact that the railway will import a large number of pilgrims to Puri during every festival, and that unless proper arrangements are made for their accommodation, the inevitable result must follow, i.e., a large number must die of cholera as was the case during the last *Rath Jatra* festival.

Defective arrangements for pilgrims to Puri.

UTKALDIPIKA.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 4th November, 1899.

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UNIT 119

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in and for the county of New York
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